

**Village of Indian Head Park  
201 Acacia Drive  
Indian Head Park, IL 60525**

**MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

*“Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/c.06 (3) minutes of public meetings shall include, but need not be limited to a general description of all matters proposed, discussed, or decided and a record of votes taken.”*

Thursday, April 12, 2012

7:30 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER – MAYOR RICHARD ANDREWS**

The regular scheduled meeting of the Village of Indian Head Park Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, April 12, 2012 at the Municipal Facility, 201 Acacia Drive, and was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Richard Andrews. Village Clerk Joseph Consolo called the roll as follows:

**ROLL CALL: JOSEPH CONSOLO, VILLAGE CLERK**

**PRESENT (AND CONSTITUTING A QUORUM):**

Mayor Richard Andrews  
Trustee Debbie Anselmo  
Trustee Brian T. Bailey  
Trustee Anne Bermier  
Trustee Carol Coleman  
Trustee Norman L. Schnauffer  
Trustee Matthew P. Walsh

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Frank Alonzo, Chief of Police/Administration  
Steve Busa, Treasurer  
Joseph V. Consolo, Village Clerk  
Richard Ramello, Counsel, Storino, Ramello & Durkin  
Dave Vandervelde, Christopher Burke Engineering

## **NOT PRESENT:**

Edward Santen, Water/Public Works Superintendent

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Mayor Andrews and the Board of Trustees led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: *“I Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God indivisible with liberty and justice for all”*.

## **MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor Andrews reported the Governor’s Office issued a press release yesterday asking that U.S. and Illinois flags be flown at half staff until sunset on April 14, 2012 on behalf of fallen soldier Corporal Alex Martinez of the United States Marine Corp from Alton Illinois.

Mayor Andrews stated that the Arbor Day Foundation has once again designated the Village of Indian Head Park a Tree City U.S.A. for the 22<sup>nd</sup> year.

Mayor Andrews stated that the Village of Indian Head Park is a member of S.E.A.S.P.A.R. that provides programs and activities to individuals with disabilities. He noted a fundraiser will be held on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Tivoli Theatre in Downer Grove. The presentation will be Johnny Rogers, a Buddy Holly impressionist. Tickets are \$20.00 until April 25<sup>th</sup> and then thereafter tickets will be \$25.00. Mayor Andrews stated that tickets may be obtained through the S.E.A.S.P.A.R. offices by calling (630) 960-7600.

Mayor Andrews noted that the Village also received information from the Governor’s office regarding the Illinois Foreclosure Prevention Network. This program provides free consultation and possible financial assistance to people who are in danger of losing their home due to foreclosure. Mayor Andrews further noted that additional information is available on the following Website: [www.keepyourhomeillinois.org](http://www.keepyourhomeillinois.org)

Mayor Andrews mentioned that Pace Routes 668 and 669 with a route on Wolf Road to the Western Springs train station through Indian Head Park will be operating with smaller shuttle buses that will be more cost effective to accommodate the ridership on these routes.

Mayor Andrews stated that through a friend of the Village who owns an asphalt paving company, that company will be donating the cost of sealcoating and striping of the parking lot at the Heritage Center. The work is scheduled to take place Mother's Day weekend (May 12<sup>th</sup> and May 13) so the Heritage Center Library will be closed. Mayor Andrews stated that the Heritage Center Foundation will be hosting an open house on Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mayor Andrews stated that Susan Kiley, of Ashbrook, is still looking for flower donations for the Heritage Center.

Mayor Andrews mentioned Village vehicle stickers will be on sale beginning May 1<sup>st</sup> and need to be purchased and displayed by June 30<sup>th</sup>. He noted that forms were mailed to residents and additional forms are also available on the Village's Website at: [www.indianheadpark-il.gov](http://www.indianheadpark-il.gov).

Mayor Andrews stated he had an opportunity to visit Springfield on March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> in connection with the West Central Municipal Conference Annual Legislative Drive-Down. He noted he met with an administrative aide to State Senator Christine Radogno and the meeting was very productive. Mayor Andrews stated that he inquired about the status of grant funding that was awarded to the Village of Indian Head Park through the Illinois Capital Program for various projects but the funds have not yet been received. Mayor Andrews further stated that another topic that was discussed was a bill that is pending that would allow municipalities to get involved with the aggregation of the supply of natural gas similar to the legislation regarding electricity. Mayor Andrews stated that he and Trustee Bailey will explore the possibility of utility savings to residents through electricity aggregation as well as natural gas savings.

Dave Vandervelde, from Christopher Burke Engineering, provided the Board with an update on the Blackhawk Park pathway project. He reported that the Blackhawk Park pathway project will begin late next week, weather conditions permitting. The scope of work will include the removal of the existing asphalt pathway and the installation of a new pathway.

Police Chief Frank Alonzo stated that the Code Red Program through Southwest Central Dispatch is up and running. He noted that should an emergency notification to residents be needed, the alert would be sent through the Code Red System. Chief Alonzo stated at this time the only numbers that will be called for emergency notification purposes are land line numbers which are already automatically in the 911 data base system.

Chief Alonzo stated that he is checking into whether residents could individually sign up on the Code Red system to receive notifications by cell phone or text messaging also.

Mayor Andrews asked Chief Alonzo if there is any additional cost to residents who sign up for the Code Red Program to be notified of emergencies by cell phone or text messaging. Chief Alonzo stated there is no cost to the Village for a Code Red emergency message that would be sent from Southwest Central Dispatch but other certain notifications through the Code Red system there may be a minimal cost to the Village.

Trustee Bermier stated that the annual Easter Egg Hunt at Blackhawk Park was a huge success, there were many compliments from residents who attended and the children enjoyed a visit from the Easter Bunny. She also thanked Mary Crowley for her work with the event, the Public Works Department for maintenance of the park and volunteer students who helped to stuff Easter eggs. Trustee Bermier stated that the Easter Egg Hunt was sponsored and funded by Village elected officials and no taxpayer dollars were spent.

Trustee Bermier mentioned that there were only two people in attendance at the last community awareness meeting and she asked if there are plans to reduce the number of meetings due to lack of attendance. Chief Alonzo stated that he will review the schedule of community awareness meeting dates to determine whether some meeting dates can be combined.

Mayor Andrews reported that the College of DuPage will be hosting an electronics recycling event that will be held on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> in Glen Ellyn. He noted computers, printers, fax machines, cell phones, televisions, hand held electronic devices, dvd players; stereos and other miscellaneous electronics will be accepted.

Mayor Andrews stated the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District will be sponsoring an event on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> to accept unused prescription drugs so they may be disposed of properly.

## **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

*Reappointment of Dennis Schermerhorn to the Planning and Zoning Commission for the term ending April 30, 2015.*

Mayor Andrews entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Coleman moved, seconded by Trustee Anselmo, to approve the consent agenda, as presented to reappoint Dennis Schermerhorn to the Planning and Zoning Commission for the term ending April 30, 2015. Carried by unanimous voice vote (6/0/0).

## **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT – TREASURER STEVE BUSA**

*Approval of Financial Report for the month ending February 29, 2012*  
*Approval of Financial Report for the month ending March 31, 2012*

Treasurer Busa presented the financial report for the months ending February 29, 2012 and March 31, 2012. For the month of February, he noted: total revenues were \$290,309.73; expenditures were \$236,859.61 and fund balances in all accounts at the end of February were \$734,074.79. For the month of March, he noted: total revenues were \$557,850.29; expenditures were \$272,250.33 and fund balances in all accounts at the end of March were \$1,027,137.15. Trustee Schnaufer moved, seconded by Trustee Bermier, to approve the financial report for the months of February 2012 and March 2012, as presented by Treasurer Busa. Carried by unanimous roll call vote (6/0/0).

*Ayes: Trustees: Anselmo, Bailey, Bermier, Coleman, Schnaufer, Walsh*  
*Nays: None*  
*Absent: None*

Treasurer Busa, noted the bulk of first installment property taxes were collected by the County and the Village received its portion which is reflected in the revenues for the month of March. He noted although it appears the Village has excess revenues, the operating fund of the Village is still borrowing money from other funds to pay for day-to-day operations of the Village even with the infusion of property tax revenues during the month of March.

## **APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

### *Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting- March 8, 2012*

After review of Board meeting minutes, Trustee Bailey moved, seconded by Trustee Walsh, to approve the March 8, 2012 Board meeting minutes, as presented. Carried by unanimous voice vote (6/0/0).

## **QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

None

## **AGENDA ITEMS (DISCUSSION AND A POSSIBLE VOTE MAY TAKE PLACE)**

### *(1) Award of Contract for the Willow Springs Road Sidewalk Project*

Dave Vandervelde, of Christopher Burke Engineering, reported earlier this week, bids were accepted from various contractors for the Willow Springs Road Sidewalk Project. He noted a sidewalk will be installed on the west side of Willow Springs Road from the Walgreens driveway to 65<sup>th</sup> Place, the engineer's estimate to complete the project was about \$62,500 and the grant received for the project was about \$80,000. Dave Vandervelde stated there were eight (8) contractors that submitted a bid for the project, the low bid was Davis Concrete with a bid of \$44,090.00 and the high bid was D Land Construction with a bid amount of \$139,093.00. Dave Vandervelde further stated that all contract proposals were publicly opened on the date of the bid opening, all proposals were reviewed and Christopher Burke Engineering is recommending that the Willow Springs Sidewalk Project Contract be awarded to Davis Concrete in the amount of \$44,090.00

Trustee Coleman inquired if the Village can use the excess remaining funds from the Willow Springs Sidewalk grant for other public works projects. Dave Vandervelde stated that engineering expenses relative to the project will also come from the grant received and based on the grant request submitted by the Village he is not aware that the excess funds can be spent on other projects. Dave Vandervelde stated that the Village also had a grant to cap an existing well and the grant received for that project was more than the money expended to complete the project.

The excess funds from that grant were allocated in the sidewalk project when it was submitted. Dave Vandervelde stated that he would look into whether the excess funds from the sidewalk project can be used for another Village project.

Mayor Andrews stated that the Village also submitted a grant request for the Cochise Watermain Project and a few other projects in 2008 and the Board is still waiting for those grant funds to be appropriated to the Village.

Trustee Coleman moved, seconded by Trustee Bermier, to award the Willow Springs Road Sidewalk Project Contract to Davis Concrete in the amount of \$44,090.00, as recommended by Christopher Burke Engineering. Carried by unanimous roll call vote (6/0/0).

*Ayes: Trustees: Anselmo, Bailey, Bermier, Coleman, Schnaufer, Walsh*

*Nays: None*

*Absent: None*

## ***(2) Village Finances***

Mayor Andrews stated that the Village had a property tax referendum on the March General Primary Election ballot that consisted of three questions to allow the Village to exceed the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law to raise an additional \$350,000 in revenue. \$150,000 would have been earmarked for police and security, \$100,000 to implement an on-going street repair and maintenance program and \$100,000 for the Village debt payment that will increase with the payment due in December, 2013. Mayor Andrews stated although the referendum did not pass, residents must be satisfied that the Board is doing a great job with the resources that are available and the way things are running. He noted the Village has been on a tight budget for many years and some people may not realize that Village infrastructure below the ground is deteriorating and needs to be maintained and sewer systems throughout the Village need televising.

Mayor Andrews stated that it is never a good time to raise property taxes or any other taxes. He added people came to the Village Board in droves after the homicide investigation last year and asked for reverse 911, police bicycle patrol, Website updates and more police services. However 62% of the residents that came out to vote on election day voted no on the police protection question on the ballot; 63% voted no on the general property tax increase question and 58% voted no on the question dealing with street maintenance.

Mayor Andrews stated it was a difficult decision for the Board to make to place the questions on the ballot but funds are needed for the day-to-day operation of the Village and the Village Board of Trustees determined to obtain input from the residents through the ballot. He noted the property tax increase, if it were approved, would have amounted to less than \$1.00 a day or about \$200.00 a year for an average home value in Indian Head Park.

Mayor Andrews stated that the Village has been short one full-time police officer for about four years and that position has not been filled because there are no funds in the budget to hire another officer. He added there were several burglaries last summer and a homicide, Neighborhood Watch was implemented and it would have been nice to designate one full-time officer as collateral duty to work with Neighborhood Watch instead of a part-time officer. Mayor Andrews stated that the Board will need to stay within the budget and will not be calling people in on overtime to attend the Neighborhood Watch meetings.

Mayor Andrews stated he is disappointed the referendum did not pass because every tax dollar spent on property tax from Indian Head Park stays in Indian Head Park at the local level. He noted that there are not many alternatives to increase revenue as a non-home rule community. He added home rule had many options and one of the concepts was to increase revenues by regulating overnight truck parking in the Village that could have generated substantial revenue per year. However, the Village is not home rule and cannot do it. Mayor Andrews recalled that at the time home rule was being discussed, there was an editorial in the *Doings Newspaper* that was recommending against home rule in Indian Head Park with a quotation: "*the Mayor made a good case for a property tax increase so look out here it comes*". Mayor Andrews stated that raising property taxes has always been a position of a last resort and over one year later finances are still difficult. Thus, the option to increase revenue was presented to residents.

Mayor Andrews stated some residents commented that if other programs such as the leaf program were brought back they may have voted yes for the referendum, or some suggested to place a sunset provision for the property tax increase to last maybe two or three years. He noted the Village debt would take until the year 2022 to pay off, if another officer were hired a career officer would work about 30 years and Village expenses increase each year. Mayor Andrews stated that when people are voting no on this referendum, it appears they are voting against their own property values, against supporting services and against needed maintenance programs.



Mayor Andrews mentioned that Finance Trustee Norm Schnaufer and Trustee Debbie Anselmo have begun working on the next fiscal year budget and the Board will continue to approach the budget with an eye to trimming expenses whenever possible. Trustee Bermier stated that she would support a study to determine if there is any way to help senior citizens or people who suffer from an illness to provide them with leaf pick-up even if there is a fee.

Mayor Andrews stated that the leaf program was initially cut from the budget due to lack of funds to pay for the program, this budget year may be a tighter budget than last year and he and Trustee Bermier will talk to Village counsel to determine if programs or services can be offered only to select residents.

Trustee Bailey stated that by placing the referendum questions on the ballot for voter consideration the Board was just presenting an option to residents, people voted it down and the entire Board is committed to staying the course and doing what is best for everyone in town with the resources available.

## **QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Rudy Napolitan, a resident of Indian Ridge for 15 years, stated that Indian Head Park is one of the finest run communities. He stated that many years ago he worked as a builder and made presentations to many committees and Boards. Mr. Napolitan stated that sometimes the Chairman of the meeting is never recognized for his contributions and he complimented Mayor Andrews for his leadership at the meetings. Mr. Napolitan further stated that there seems to be a trend of individuals converting condominiums in the Indian Ridge Development in Indian Head Park to rental units. He asked whether there would be involvement from the Board on this issue.

Mayor Andrews stated the Board has not taken any action on that matter at the Village Board level with respect to condominium units being converted to rental units. Trustee Coleman stated that individual condominium association boards may have addressed this issue in their declarations of covenants and restrictions or other rules that may have been imposed by the association to allow rentals of units. Trustee Schnaufer stated there seems to be a trend of condominium units for rent in other development areas as well because people cannot sell their units with the downturn in the real estate market.

Vern Kramer, of Ashbrook, asked how the Village will pay for the services and programs that are needed since the referendum did not pass.

Mayor Andrews stated that the Village will move forward and do its best with the resources that are available. He added strict spending guidelines were implemented previously including purchase order approval for any expenditure over \$100.00, many projects are now on hold including street repairs and televising sewers, no hiring of an additional full-time police officer and the leaf program was previously taken out of the budget.

He added that even if the referendum did pass on the March ballot, the Village would not have received the money from the tax increase until the fall of 2013.

Mayor Andrews stated that the Board needs to find a way to either increase revenues or cut expenses or maybe a combination of both to raise the \$100,000 additional revenue that is needed to make the debt payment in December of 2013.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Walsh moved, seconded by Trustee Coleman, to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, 5 ILCS 120/c (c) (2) to discuss collective negotiation matters regarding certain employees and 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11) regarding probable or imminent litigation. Carried by unanimous roll call vote (6/0/0).

*Ayes: Trustees: Anselmo, Bailey, Bermier, Coleman, Schnaufer, Walsh*

*Nays: None*

*Absent: None*

### **RETURN TO THE OPEN MEETING**

There being no further business to discuss in executive session, Trustee Schnaufer moved, seconded by Trustee Bailey, to return to the regular Board meeting. Carried by unanimous voice vote (6/0/0).

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Walsh moved, seconded by Trustee Anselmo, to adjourn the regular Board meeting at 9:05 p.m. Carried by unanimous voice vote (6/0/0).

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Leach, Deputy Village Clerk/Recording Secretary